

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Lesley Ann BAKER et al.

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Appln. No. : 10/628,211

Examiner: Unknown

Filed : Ju

: July 29, 2003

For

: GATEWAY FOR EFFICIENTLY IDENTIFYING AN END USER'S LOCAL

SERVICE PROVIDER

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, §1.97-1.98, Applicants hereby call the following documents to the Examiner's attention:

- U.S. Patent No. 5,392,402 to ROBROCK, II, issued on February 21, 1995;
- U.S. Patent No. 5,661,792 to AKINPELU et al., issued on August 26, 1997;
- U.S. Patent No. 5,699,416 to ATKINS, issued on December 16, 1997;
- U.S. Patent No. 5,754,632 to SMITH, issued on May 19, 1998;
- U.S. Patent No. 5,867,562 to SCHERER, issued February 2, 1999;
- U.S. Patent No. 5,873,030 to MECHLING et al., issued on February 16, 1999;
- U.S. Patent No. 6,188,751 to SCHERER, issued on February 13, 2001;
- U.S. Patent No. 6,327,349 to ROLLINS, issued on December 4, 2001;
- U.S. Patent No. 6,430,274 to WINSTEAD et al., issued on August 6, 2002;
- U.S. Patent No. 6,473,502 to KARAU et al., issued on October 29, 2002;

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- U.S. Patent No. 6,546,381 to SUBRAMANIAN et al., issued on April 8, 2003;
- U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0002639 to HUIE, issued on January 2, 2003; and
- U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0061205 to CLEGHORN et al., issued on March 27, 2003.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider and cite the above documents. Copies of the above-noted documents are attached and have been listed on a PTO-1449 Form which is also attached hereto. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached PTO-1449 Form and to return a copy of the Form to the Applicants with the next official communication in the present application to confirm consideration of these documents.

Applicants would also like to bring to the Examiner's attention three press releases issued by Applicants and one trade show at which Applicants attended, each of which occurred less than one year prior to the filing date of the instant application.

SNET DG ANNOUNCES NEW DATA GATEWAY PRODUCT, by SNET DG, dated February 15, 2003;

SNET Announces New Data Gateway Service, by SNET DG, dated February 17, 2003; SNETDG's "Data Gateway" – A Tool to Stem the Industry's \$1B Loss, by SNET Diversified Group, printed June 18, 2003; and

A trade show that took place on or about November 10, 2002, at which Applicants disclosed a data gateway product. Specifically, the Applicants disclosed a data gateway to help

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reduce the losses associated with Return Code 50 rejects, indicating for example, that a local service provider (LSP) does not service, or no longer services, an end user's account. The data gateway supports the efforts of telecommunications service providers to identify an end user's LSP by providing a telecommunications service provider with access to a nationwide body of data that includes accurate LSP information. Further, the data gateway employs a least cost feature that ensures that each query is destined for the appropriate database using the most economical access method available. Essentially, the data gateway accepts queries of telephone numbers from telecommunications service providers. Then, the data gateway formulates and launches queries to the appropriate line information database (LIDB) to retrieve the LSP information. Upon receiving the LSP information, the data gateway sends a response to the querying provider for use in the settlement/collections process.

Applicants note that an Office Action on the merits has not yet issued in the instant application, and thus, no fee is necessary to ensure consideration of this statement. However, if an Office Action has issued and is crossing in the mail with this statement, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 19-0089 any fee necessary to ensure consideration of the submitted materials.

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Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

November 5, 2003 GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C. 1950 Roland Clarke Place Reston, VA 20191 (703) 716-1191

Respectfully submitted, Lesley Ann BAKER et al.

Will E. Lydd Res. No. Bruce H. Bernstein 41,568

Reg. No. 29,027

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		2	SN	SNET Announces New Data Gateway Service, by SNET DG, dated February 17, 2003.												
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**EXAMINER** 

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\*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

DATE CONSIDERED